UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO: Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM: Mr. W. A. Branigan

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY NOVEMBER 22, 1963, DALLAS, TEXAS

1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
1 - Mr. J. P. Mohr
1 - Mr. T. E. Bishop

DATE: January 4, 1968

1 - Mr. A. Rosen
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan
1 - Mr. R. E. Lenihan

REC-69

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Bishop
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

The January, 1968, issue of "Ramparts" magazine contains an article entitled "The Garrison Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy," which was authored by former Special Agent William W. Turner [redacted].

Turner is the self-centered, embittered individual who has made frequent scurrilous attacks upon the Director and the Bureau since his dismissal.

Turner also wrote an article in the June, 1967, issue of "Ramparts" magazine entitled "The Inquest." In such article, Turner summarized the wild accusations of New Orleans District Attorney James C. Garrison and used information from individuals whom we found to be completely unreliable during the course of our investigation of the assassination. In such article, Turner's arguments consisted of innuendoes, part facts and numerous outright falsehoods.

Turner's current article in the January, 1968, issue of "Ramparts" magazine is largely a rehash of the allegations made by New Orleans District Attorney Garrison during the last ten months. The vast majority of such data has previously been analyzed by us and appropriate dissemination made to the White House and to the Attorney General.

In the first three pages of his current article, Turner goes to great length to praise Garrison and to alert his readers that Garrison is conducting his probe under most difficult conditions. At one point, Turner states that Garrison "tried the life of an FBI Agent but found the role too circumscribed to be stimulating." Turner fails to point out Garrison was a Special Agent for less than five months and that after he resigned from the FBI to enter military service on July 24, 1951, he wrote a letter to the Bureau

Enclosure

62-109060 ENCLOSURE

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approximately two weeks later asking the Bureau to get him released from Army duty so he could again resume his duties in the FBI. Turner also fails to note that when the Bureau informed Garrison it would take no action to interfere with his military duties, approximately two weeks thereafter Garrison contacted Army medical authorities and disclosed his psychiatric background and obtained an Army medical release.

Surprisingly, Turner identifies Jack S. Martin as the individual who informed Garrison of an alleged association between Lee Harvey Oswald and David William Ferrie. It was this information which caused Garrison to launch his intensive probe of the assassination. We have previously pointed out Martin is well known as an alcoholic and was previously committed to a hospital in New Orleans for a mental condition.

Throughout his article, Turner speculates that Oswald was a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) agent and was in frequent contact with CIA and individuals who were being used by CIA in various secret endeavors. He also is critical of the FBI and accuses the FBI of disregarding information from various individuals interviewed whereas Garrison has found the information furnished by such indivioduals highly significant. Such allegation is completely false since our investigation was extremely thorough and every attempt was made to verify the information involved. Actually, Garrison has constantly used this type of information (rejected by the Warren Commission) to build his case.

Turner makes a plea to his readers that they join with him in demanding that President Johnson release documents in National Archives which are now withheld from the public. He falsely alleges that such documents include evidence of Oswald's role as a CIA "double agent." Other authors critical of the Warren Commission have made similar demands that the data withheld from the public at National Archives be made available to them. Included are Mark Lane and Harold Weisberg, [redacted] who have continually attacked the Warren Commission, President Johnson, the Director and other high Government officials. Lane and Weisberg are in frequent contact with Garrison in New Orleans.

ACTION:

For information. We are sending a copy of Turner's article to the Dallas and New Orleans Offices for review and analyses to determine if any new material is contained therein. A copy of "Ramparts" magazine containing Turner's article is attached.